

# Environmental Bulletin Volume 11, Number 12 September 12, 2000

# Final design remedy for K Area Seepage Basin OU available in Pre-Construction Fact Sheet

The Department of Energy (DOE), United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) announce the completion of the final design of the remedy selected for the K-Area Reactor Seepage Basin Operable Unit (OU) and the availability of a Pre-Construction Fact Sheet. This fact sheet provides a description of the remedy selected for the K-Area Reactor Seepage Basin at the Savannah River Site (SRS).

The K-Area Reactor Seepage Basin (KRSB) is located in the south-central portion of SRS, approximately 400 feet west of K Reactor. The KRSB was used from 1957 to 1960 to receive low-level radioactive wastewater from K-Area disassembly basin purges via a 600 foot long, 3-inch diameter, polyethylene pipe buried approximately 2 to 4 feet below land surface. The basin dimensions are approximately 135 x 70 feet with an average depth of 7 feet.

The remedial action selected in the Plug-in Record of Decision will be applied to the KRSB. The remedy consists of four components:

- Land use controls (institutional control) will be used to prevent disturbance of the cover system and excavation into the Principal Threat Source Material (PTSM). Residential or agricultural use of the area will be prohibited.
- PTSM soils in the first 3 feet below the basin bottom will be stabilized in place using a cement-based grout mixture. This treatment will convert the waste into a form less likely to result in human exposure to radionuclides.
- A low permeability soil cover will be placed over the stabilized soil. This will reduce infiltration through the stabilized soil to prevent leaching of strontium-90 and carbon-14 to groundwater above maximum contaminant levels. The cover will also prevent exposure of humans or animals to radionuclides in the stabilized soil.

• The pipeline will be grouted to prevent exposure to burrowing animals.

There will be no health hazards posed to off-site communities as a result of this remedial action.

The Pre-construction Fact Sheet for the SRS K-Area Reactor Seepage Basin Operable Unit is available at the following locations: DOE Public Reading Room at the Gregg-Graniteville Library at the University of South Carolina (USC) -Aiken campus in Aiken, SC; Thomas Cooper Library Government Documents Department at USC in Columbia, SC; Reese Library at Augusta State University in Augusta, GA; and Asa H. Gordon Library at Savannah State University in Savannah, GA. For additional information contact Jim Moore at 1-800-249-8155 or e-mail: jim02.moore@srs.gov

### CIF to begin Suspension Plan

DOE has requested Temporary Authorization (TA) for the Consolidated Incineration Facility (CIF) to immediately begin the conditions outlined in the SCDHEC-approved Suspension Plan. This TA would supercede most of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act permit conditions for the CIF. For more information, please contact the following individuals:

#### **SCDHEC**

Attn: John Litton, P.E. Director, Division of Hazardous and Infectious Waste Mgt. Bureau of Land and Waste Management 2600 Bull Street Columbia, SC 29201 (803) 896-4000

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For more information on this or other environmental and compliance activities at SRS, please contact:

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Access the Environmental Notice web site: http://www.SRS.GOV/general/srenviro/ envbul/ebinex.htm

The SRS Environmental Bulletin

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